United Nations S/2018/548

Security Council

Distr.: General
8 June 2018

Original: English

Identical letters dated 7 June 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I write to inform you once again of the latest violent attacks emanating from the Gaza Strip by the Hamas terrorist organization and its affiliates against Israeli citizens.

Over the past two months, Hamas and the Islamic Jihad, supported and funded by Iran, have launched over 100 missile and mortar attacks against Israeli civilian population centres, while continuing to instigate violent provocations along the security fence separating Gaza from Israel. These attacks include firing at Israeli security services, planting improvised explosive devices on the fence and throwing Molotov cocktails into Israeli territory.

Hamas has also used kite bombs to ignite over 250 fires in Israeli territory. These arson attacks have torched over 2,000 Israeli agricultural fields and have already caused over $1.4 million in damages.

In preparation for the stated intent of Hamas to provoke additional riots on Friday, 8 June 2018, the Israeli Air Force has dropped leaflets throughout Gaza, warning civilians against approaching the security fence, damaging it or carrying out acts of terror. Israel will not compromise on its security needs and will take all necessary steps in protection of our citizens and our sovereignty.

The State of Israel goes to great lengths to improve the humanitarian situation in Gaza, with hundreds of tons of goods transferred from Israel to the Gaza Strip every day. The deterioration of the economic situation in the Gaza Strip is the sole responsibility of Hamas, as it continues to divert the funds intended to aid the population and exploit them for its terrorist operations.

Despite the reluctance of the Security Council to do so last Friday, I once again urge you to clearly and unequivocally condemn the dangerous actions of Hamas. In the interest of restoring calm to our region and preventing further violence, it is essential that you hold the terrorist organizations accountable.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Danny **Danon**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

18-09404 (E) 120618

Please recycle